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Ministry of Advanced Education

INTERNATIONAL EDUATION FACTS

- B.C.'s 25 public post-secondary institutions have more than 300 international agreements with other schools, foreign governments and international consortia. These include exchange agreements, credit transfer, contracts to deliver training, joint delivery of programs, and sister institution agreements.
- This year, the Ministry of Advanced Education has met or teleconferenced with delegations of administrators from China, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines and Vietnam to promote education links.
- The ministry has distributed 2,700 promotional kits, focusing on B.C. as a study destination of choice, to more than 80 Canadian trade commissioner offices abroad. These kits are available in English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Japanese, Spanish and French.
- International students at public post-secondary institutions in B.C. spent about $510 million in 2005, generating an estimated 6,000 jobs.
- International education creates a pool of potential immigrants who can help ease labour shortages.
- The B.C. government, working with the federal government, has issued more than 2,800 off-campus work permits to international students at public post-secondary institutions, which allow eligible students to work off-campus up to 20 hours a week while classes are in session, and full-time during breaks.
- International students who have graduated from B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions and private degree-granting institutions can apply to work in B.C. for up to two years outside metro Vancouver, and up to a year in the metro Vancouver area.
- According to the B.C. Progress Board, many of B.C.'s overseas education partners say that Canada is their country of choice for ESL training because it is seen as having an unaccented and easily understood form of English.

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